



FMMI in the NEWS

Financial Management Modernization Initiative

Issue #14 – March/April 2010



Inside This Issue

- 1 Welcome Project Manager Howard Campbell
- 1 D1.1 REE Go-Live Update
- 2 Meet the FMMI Operations and Maintenance Team
- 2 FMMI Interfaces Update
- 3 Planning Activities for Future Deployments
- 3 FMMI D2 Role Design and Role Mapping Workshop
- 4 Key Messages for Your Agency/Staff Office

Please join us in welcoming Howard Campbell as Project Manager for the FMMI program.

Howard has been actively involved with FMMI since the beginning, providing support across the program as he led the Systems Analysis and Requirements Division (SARD) of the Office of the Chief Financial Officer.

In addition to his familiarity with FMMI, Howard brings considerable knowledge gained during his 19 years with USDA.



Based on his experience, Howard will be able to take on the responsibilities managing activities across the Functional, Technical, Change Management and Implementation teams on FMMI as they continue integrating the Deployment 1-1.2 Agencies into the FMMI system and preparing Agencies for their upcoming implementations.

Howard, a father of five and graduate of North Carolina A&T State University, is a native of Clinton, Maryland. Howard enjoys coaching youth football and track and is actively involved with Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., and Life Changing Christian Center.

REE Go-Live Update

The Research, Education and Economics (REE) agencies, comprised of Agriculture Research Services (ARS), Economic Research Services (ERS), National Agriculture Statistics Service (NASS), and the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) went live as FMMI Deployment 1.1 in March 2010.

The D1.1 Go-Live for the REE agencies was the first midyear conversion of agencies into the FMMI solution. Data conversion validation occurred during the first week of March; this activity allowed the legacy system data to be converted into FMMI. Adjustments and updates were made as needed and the REE Agencies' Implementation Teams executed the initial FMMI transactions of the system during the second week of March to verify the production migration, prior to granting access to the overall REE user community.

Now that the REE users are actively using FMMI, the D1.1 Agency Implementation Teams are able to get an overall assessment of how well their FMMI users understood the topics covered in FMMI training and what they took away from their FMMI User Role and Training discussions. Significant efforts have been put forth to resolve prior issues to facilitate a smooth integration for the D1.1 agencies' users as they begin using FMMI.

With the successful Go-lives since October 2009, over 1,000 users are now conducting business using FMMI. The FMMI Core Team would like to thank the Agency Implementation Team members from ARS, ERS, NASS and NIFA for their efforts to make the transition to the new system as smooth as possible.

FSIS will be the next Agency to go live as FMMI Deployment 1.2 in June 2010.

Meet the FMMI Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Team

What do they do?

The FMMI Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Team provides support after an Agency / Staff Office has gone live in the FMMI system, a vital component of a successful implementation. Implementing the FMMI system for the USDA Agencies / Staff Offices is a considerable effort requiring multiple teams working together and facilitating the appropriate level of post go-live support for the users dispersed throughout the United States.

How does the post go-live support process work?

The O&M Team supports FMMI users at the Department and Agency level. Agency Functional Administrators work with the Controller Operations Division (COD) Help Desk to provide Tier 1 support by fielding calls, addressing problems, answering questions and helping with requests, generally acting as the first line of defense for their respective Agency / Staff Office user communities. Issues that cannot be resolved at the Tier 1 level by the COD Help Desk are then escalated to the O&M Team via a Remedy Help Desk ticket requiring additional support. The same process applies for all FMMI Agencies in all deployments.

What have they accomplished so far?

The O&M Team contributed to the success of the FMMI Implementations by collaborating with specialists in the Controller Operations Division (COD) in New Orleans, Louisiana and with the FMMI Core Team. The O&M Team's initial involvement with FMMI began during the D1 system test period, focusing on resolving any issues that arose within the FMMI system prior to the Go-Live of D1 agencies.

In addition to providing support to users executing transactions and reports in FMMI, the O&M Team holds multiple meetings each week with the FMMI Agency / Staff Office Implementation Teams to discuss their users' issues and questions and how they can be resolved through detailed communications, job aids, or on occasion, changes to FMMI system functionality to better suit users' needs.

FMMI Interfaces Update

An integral part of the FMMI solution is the interaction between the external partners / systems and FMMI. The FMMI system interfaces with more than fifteen external systems in an effort to capture accounting transactions including asset accounting, purchasing, invoicing and disbursing through Treasury.

As of April, 2010, FMMI now interfaces with a number of corporate systems including Integrated Acquisition System (IAS) for Procurement, GovTrip for Temporary Duty Assignment (TDY) Travel and SmartPay2 for the Purchase and Fleet Card programs. In most cases, the end user experience within the external partner system is unchanged; however in FMMI the interaction appears different. The most significant improvement to these interfaces is that both IAS and GovTrip are now close to real-time interfaces allowing for quick call-and-response to system transactions. Additionally, SmartPay2 processes real-time client side validation on FMMI shorthand codes at the time of Reallocation.

In addition to the systems listed above, FMMI interfaces with the following systems:

- **ARRA** – American Recovery and Reporting Act
- **FSDW** - Financial Statements Data Warehouse
- **CCR** – Central Contractor Registration
- **CPAIS** - Corporate Property Automated Information System Real Property Accounting,
- **IPAC** – Intra-governmental Payment and Collection system
- **Lockbox**
- **MINC** – Miscellaneous Income System
- **NEMP** - Name Employee Database
- **Payroll** - Payroll Accounting System (PACS/CAPS) (Adjustments)/ABCO (Billings & Collections)
- **PROP** - Personal Property System (PROP) Property Accounting System
- **SPS** - US Treasury Secure Payment System
- **TELE/UTVN** - Telephone (TELE) and Utilities (UTVN)
- **TRVL** – Travel System for Relocation Expenses
- **WebTA** – Web-based employee time and attendance tracking

Planning Activities for Future Deployments

The FMMI Core Team has been working with the Deployment 2 Agency Implementation Teams to conduct Fit/Gap meetings, Master Data discussions, and working sessions. Fit/Gap meetings occurred throughout February and March, in Washington, D.C. or at the agency's primary location. During the Fit/Gap meetings, FMMI Core Team members reviewed the current FMMI solution at a high-level, and then spent significant time listening and understanding each agency's unique business processes. The Fit/Gap sessions were also a time to consider how each Agency could standardize business practices where possible. If a unique business process cannot be standardized, the FMMI Core Team members work with FMMI Leadership to determine what changes to the current solution may be appropriate.

Also occurring in preparation for Deployment 2, Master Data discussions and working sessions were held with each Agency Implementation Team and Master Data Points of Contact (POCs). The management of master data provides the baseline for transactional data within FMMI. Master data is used to define the organizational hierarchy elements (Funds, Funds Centers, Cost Centers, Functional Areas, and Work Breakdown Structure (WBS) Elements) within FMMI that will represent the structure used to control and manage budgetary resources. Each Deployment 2 Agency has Master Data POCs who are aware of how their Agency needs to utilize their master data to budget resources, track spending, and produce agency required reports. After master data has been explained in the context of how it is used in FMMI, Database Workshops are scheduled to guide Agencies on how to populate master data databases with their own master data in preparation for upcoming data cleansing activities.

FMMI D2 Role Design Overview & Role Mapping Workshops

The FMMI team has begun working with the D2 Agencies to facilitate discussions around organizing and grouping related tasks according to business process into the appropriate role within FMMI. The FMMI roles developed to date will be applicable to Deployment 2 Agencies. Discussions between the FMMI Role Alignment team and D2 Agency Implementation teams are ongoing to identify if a need exists to create or modify roles based on additional requirements identified during recent D2 Fit/Gap sessions.

D2 agencies were invited to attend the Role Mapping Workshop (pictured below) from March 23-25 at the South Building in Washington, D.C. During the workshop, D2 Agency POCs got a better understanding of the overall process areas and how their teams will support the role mapping and training delivery initiatives targeted for D2 Agencies. A significant portion of the workshop was dedicated to the Role Design and Role Mapping process. "How the process works" and "why it is important" were critical questions that were addressed during the Role Mapping Workshop.

Role Mapping activities will be completed over the upcoming months as we get ready for D2 training delivery in Fall 2010 and for Go-Live activities in Fall 2010 and Spring 2011.



Deployment 2 Agency Implementation Teams gathered in Washington, D.C. on March 23-25, 2010



Key Messages for Your Agency/Staff Office

As leadership, or the FMMI Point of Contact (POC) for your Agency/Staff Office, we rely on you to take back key messages to the rest of your organization about FMMI. Key points to relay to your organizations:

- FMMI welcomes Howard Campbell as the FMMI Project Manager.
- The Research Education and Economic (REE) Agencies, ARS, ERS, NASS and NIFA, went live in March 2010.
- The O&M Team supports users after their Agencies begin using FMMI.
- FMMI now interfaces with over 15 external systems to capture accounting processes from various external partners. The updates derived for these interfaces have succeeded in increasing real-time call-and-response between many transactions in the FMMI system.
- Role Mapping activities are underway for the Deployment 2 agencies. A three day workshop was held in Washington, D.C. from March 23 – 25. Agency POCs were given a high level overview of the Role Mapping process and what to expect over the upcoming months.
- Planning activities for Deployment 2 Agencies have begun and thus far the FMMI Core Team and Agency Implementation Teams have completed Fit/Gap Meetings and Master Data Discussions for each Agency, which will help facilitate a successful transition into the FMMI system for D2 agencies.

FMMI in the News Objective

FMMI in the News serves as a central source of information to Agency and Staff Office leadership and POCs on all things related to the Financial Management Modernization Initiative (FMMI).

To verify FMMI in the News is relevant to you and your Agency or Staff Office, please let us know what topics you would like to hear by sending feedback, comments, and suggestions to the FMMI mailbox at fmmi@cfo.usda.gov or give immediate feedback and tell us how we are doing.

FMMI Calendar

Agency Submission of Mock 1 Funds Centers/Cost Centers	April 9
D2 Role Mapping Draft Submission	April 12
Agency Submission of Mock 1 WBS Element/Functional Area	April 16
Master Data Database/Crosswalks	April 16
FMMI at Financial Management Training (FMT)	May 26 – 28

Questions or Comments?

If you have questions about the FMMI project or information in this newsletter, please send an email to fmmi@usda.gov and include a clear subject line to indicate what your question or concern is about.

For information, reference documents and frequently asked questions, visit the FMMI website: <http://info.fmmi.usda.gov>.

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